

II. REMARKS

To expedite prosecution of this case and allowance of the claims therefor, applicants now request the cancellation, without prejudice or disclaimer, of claims 38-48 and 50-52 (claim 49 having been previously cancelled, also without prejudice or disclaimer). Applicants reserve the right to further prosecute in this or any related application claims 38-52, including the right to respond to each of the allegations made in the Office action of May 25, 2005.

By this amendment, applicants also file for consideration claims 53-67, corresponding to claims 14 and 16-29 originally filed on July 19, 2001, in parent application no. 09/223,533 (now U.S. patent 6,459,411), but never substantively considered by the Office, as they were subject to a Restriction Requirement. Applicants respectfully submit that claims 53-67 are in condition for allowance over the art of record.

III. CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and favorable action is requested. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute additional claims, including claims of broader scope, in this or any continuing application.

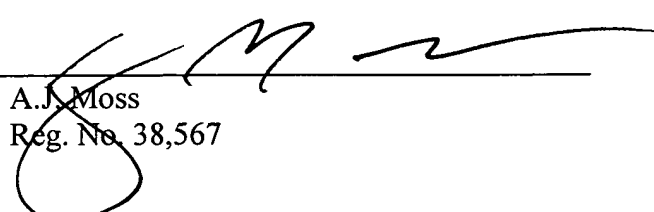
Applicants hereby petition for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee, except for the issue fee, for such extension is to be charged to **Deposit Account No. 19-3878**.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if it would in any way advance prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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